

**FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP**

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10151  
Telephone: (212) 588-0800  
Facsimile: (212) 588-0500

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 03 2008

**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

**To:** Commissioner For Patent  
Examiner, James S. Wozniak

**Firm:** United State Patent and Trademark Office  
Group Art Unit 2626

**Fax No.** 571 273-8300

**From:** William S. Frommer

**Date:** April 3, 2008

**Re:** US Patent Application No. 10/617,347  
Sony Ref.: S03P0857US00  
Sony IPD: Naoyuki Hirota  
Our Ref.: 450100-04657

**No. of Pages:** 3  
(including cover page)

---

If you do not receive all pages or are unable to read the transmission, please call and ask for Fontella McKenzie @ Ext. 2153

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE**

The documents accompanying this transmission contain confidential information intended for a specific individual and purpose. The information is private, and is legally protected by law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or the taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this facsimile is strictly prohibited.

00536275

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
APR 03 2008  
RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
APR 03 2008

PATENT  
450100-04657

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Kondo, Tetsujiro, et al.  
Serial No. : 10/617,347  
For : INFORMATION ENCODING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD, INFORMATION DECODING APPARATUS  
AND METHOD, RECORDING MEDIUM UTILIZING  
SPECTRAL SWITCHING FOR EMBEDDING  
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN AN AUDIO SIGNAL (AS  
AMENDED)  
Filed : July 10, 2003  
Examiner : Wozniak, James S.  
Art Unit : 2626  
Confirmation No. : 2741

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10151

**FACSIMILE**

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the  
Patent and Trademark Office Central Fax Center No.  
(571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.

Barnet Shindelman

Type or print name of  
person signing certification

Barnet Shindelman

Signature

April 3, 2008

Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which  
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed January 28, 2008. To the extent the Examiner's

PATENT  
450100-04657

Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
Attorneys for ApplicantsBy   
William S. Frommer  
Reg. No. 25,506  
(212) 588-0800